

Treaty of SERDICA.
Constantine gained the Balkan
provinces

1 march 317

Treaty of SERDICA. Constantine
won most of Balkans.

Constantine's sons CRISPUS
and Constantinus were proclaimed
Caesars, together with Licinius
the younger. Crispus was in tears;
also 2 infants

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Treaty of Serdica

Constantine gained Balkan provinces.

Mar. 1, 317

The rival emperors Constantine and Licinius made peace. The diocese of Moesia with its provinces from Achaea to Dacia ripensis fell to Constantine, while the dioceses of Thracia and its provinces remained in Licinius's sphere of power. The unity of the Danubian border was now destroyed. An effective defense against the Gothic attackers was now possible only if the two rivals got along with each

other. The decision of the Empire also
cast an adverse shadow on the future;
imperial politics often referred back to
this unfortunate arrangement.

Constantine spent the following years
almost exclusively in the Balkans. His
vigorous measures secured the peace in this
area, but first they led to civil war with
Licinius

C317

Constantine was an active & able administrator. He established a body of 'COMITES' (companion), divided into 3 ranks who owed a special allegiance to the emperor & were employed in a range of governmental duties.

HE also continued the lofty court ceremonial established by Diocletian, in which the emperor was portrayed as sacrosanct, removed from ordinary mortals. Constantine also took to

wearing a bejewelled diadem as the visible
symbol of his exalted rank.

Constantine's contribution to taxation was the chrysargyron paid in gold & silver - levied every 4 years on city-dwellers throughout the empire. Beatings & tortures were in store for those who could not pay. Mothers sold their children; Fathers prostituted their daughters under compulsion to pay the exactors of the Chrysargyron.

317 → 323

Maximian remained barely tolerant of Christians.

Constantine presented himself as champion of Christians everywhere.

Maximian gradually came to suspect that Christians in his service were 5th Columnists, sympathetic to Constantine. He dismissed Christians from his imperial bureaucracy and his army. He came to suspect certain bishops.

of open disloyalty, and had them
executed and their churches destroyed

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Cuspus; Constantine junior (II)
and LICINIUS LICINIANUS (both)
made Caesars.

317

China: Eastern TS'IN dynasty

After 3/7

DURANT

Constantine's coins dropped one by
one their pagan effigies, until
by 323 they bore only neutral
inscriptions